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NEWS BULLETIN AND PRICE LIST

SUNNY RIDGE NURSERY, OCTOBER 1947

Swarthmore, Pa.

U. S. Department of Agriculture

THESE PRICES GOOD UNTIL JANUARY 1st, 1948

Will be accepted now for spring delivery.

PLANT BLIGHT RESISTANT CHINESE CHESTNUT TREES

1 The Chinese Chestnut has passed the experimental stage. It is time to plant.

Do you want to buy a chestnut tree no taller than you are which has already produced nuts? We have a few trees with that record.

NUTS IN 1951 OR SOONER

The chances are about 20 to one in your favor that you will get chestnuts in 1951 or possibly sooner if you plant in 1948 as follows: Plant one or more of each of two varieties of our grafted varieties near to each other (about 30 or 35 feet). Keep grass and weeds away from the trees until September first for 2 seasons. Fertilize as our booklet directs and you are in for a 2 party or 3 party race depending on whether it is you and boys, or you, boys and squirrels.

Here are passages from unsolicited letters:

From Stoneham, Mass. 3/18/45

"... a few nuts (about 30) from the trees you sold me in 1942. They went thru the winter of 1943 o.k.; temperatures were between 20 and 30 degrees below in Boston area. Varieties were Connecticut Yankee and seedlings."

From Chatham, N. J. 1/20/45

"You may be interested to learn of my success with two Chinese Chestnuts (bare root) planted in the Spring of 1943 altho perhaps not as amazed as I was when each developed about 20 burrs the past Fall. About 5 of these bore large chestnuts, the others failing to fully develop."

Note. As the trees get larger there will be pollen for all blooms. Especially, note that both of the above planted in '43 and got nuts in '44, but that is better than we promise everyone.

From: Washington, D. C.

September 18, 1946.

"In the fall of 1945 I purchased twelve Chinese chestnut trees from your nursery * * *. To my utter amazement, these trees now bear little chestnuts. Needless to say, I am delighted. Many thanks for the excellent stock that you sent me."

From River Road, Milton, Pa. 1/11/47

"I now have 90 of your nut trees (Hickory, Chestnut and Walnut) all doing well and from one to three years since planting."

THE THRILL OF GATHERING NUTS

It thrills me to walk through the nursery in September and October and see the glossy brown nuts peeping out of opening burrs and nice nuts in the grass.

CHINESE CHESTNUTS TO THE FORE. Each year that I experiment with Chinese Chestnuts my opinion of them rises. Chestnuts are certainly the most productive of all nut trees. They are also the most precocious. Each of the other nut trees has its especial merits but in these two the chestnuts lead. The parent trees from which we propagate are the carefully selected best out of many thousands of seedling trees. What about the quality of the nuts? Well, the very conservative Mr. C. A. Reed, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, has said this:

"The best of the Chinese chestnuts are without peers among known chestnuts from any part of the world."

And now the Department has just released its latest best variety, the Nan-king; seed planted 1936, bore 2.3 lbs. 1943; 34.4 lbs. in '44; 37.8 lbs. in '45; 1.0 lb. in '46—low yield because of deadly freeze. Value at 40¢ per lb. \$31.20. I can sell you some trees but may have to limit the number to one purchaser.

We also have another new variety—Abundance.

In the spring of 1939 we transplanted some chestnut trees in the nursery. They were three and four feet high. In 1943 they were 6, 7, and 8 feet high with spreading tops. Nearly all bore well in 1942 and again in 1943. Their record is one that you may duplicate if you give the trees a chance.

CHINESE CHESTNUT TREES THAT HAVE RIPENED NUTS

If you are in a hurry for nuts you can get chestnut trees that already have ripened some nuts. A few chestnut trees, 3-4 feet and larger, have matured nuts. These trees have been carefully marked. If you want some of these proven trees add \$1.50 to the list price. All are grafted trees.

HARDY SEEDLINGS

The fact that a tree is grafted sometimes causes a delay in passage of sap to roots for winter storage. This excess moisture supply above the graft of a tree may, in extreme locations, cause an early autumn freeze to kill the tree above the graft. Therefore if you are on the northern edge of chestnut country in Zone II or III of Rehders map p. 7 of our booklet, "Nut Trees for Cold Climates," I suggest that you begin with our seedlings. We have a few seedlings of unusual ancestry, direct from a Chinese neighborhood where seedling seed have been selected generation after generation. **STRAIGHT LINE SEEDLINGS** we call them.

CUTTING BACK

Nut trees have prodigious roots—roots that are long and not fibrous. We have to cut away some of this long root before we send your trees. To plant a tree with only part of its roots and all of its top is to invite early death. I know for I have done it. Therefore we cut the tops back to establish balance and to help insure the success of transplanting. Therefore you need not expect the trees to be very handsome on arrival, but wait until growth begins and then admire, and when the nuts begin you will rejoice.

WAXED TRUNKS

We wax the trunk with a special and expensive wax, to reduce evaporation. The price of this unguent has jumped fabulously but we keep on using it. We think it increases the chance of survival and we want the trees you buy from us to grow. We can't keep on without your repeat orders and the orders from your friends who hear of your success.

POLLENATION

So far as we know, everything that we sell except mulberry has better chance of yielding if it has a partner of same species and different variety to pollenate the blossoms—except that wild trees near by may serve your black walnut.

2 CHINESE PERSIMMONS. One of the excitements of the year at Sunny Ridge Nursery has been Chinese persimmons. Thirty varieties have produced fruit and some trees had all they could possibly hold. In growth habit they resemble pears. Grafted trees. Fruits 2½ to 3 inches in diameter. We have had difficulty in grafting them so they are scarce and the price is high. There are some very fine 8 foot **sheng**. Bear soon. Anyone who plants these should follow our booklet and regard himself as experimenting.

3 AMERICAN PERSIMMONS. These are delicious fruits but our stock is very low.

4 FILBERTS—For a long while I turned up my nose at filberts but I had a few trees. At last the handsome way they grow won my attention. Picking up the nuts won my affection. Eating them confirmed it, and now I'm an enthusiast starting a test orchard and selling the proved standard varieties. Try some. They are intimate yard trees and very good screens.

Barcelona is the heavy bearer and several others are pollinators. You must have both. Please order Barcelona and pollinator. One pollinator to half a dozen Barcelonas is all right. Plant six feet apart for a screen, fifteen to twenty feet apart in the open.

5 HAZEL NUT. Sold out. See us next year, some coming, but do try some of our hybrid hazel x filbert seedlings of the FI generation.

NEW SHAGBARKS. THINNER SHELLS, BIG KERNELS, COMPLETE HALVES

6 Perhaps you remember the long scales of bark on a tree that some called shellbark and others called shagbark or scaly bark (*Carya ovata* to be exact). You picked up the nuts with delight.

They were pretty, the flavor delicious, and you had difficulty in getting the kernels. Well, that's over. Enthusiastic members of the Northern Nut Growers Association have searched the woods from Canada to Carolina these last 30 years and found the master trees. I am testing about 50 varieties. The shagbarks we sell will give you most of their kernels in halves. These are genius trees.

If you fertilize the trees you will be surprised at the speed with which the shagbarks grow. I've seen them make 3 feet in a season. There is little danger of hurt by over feeding. We have several varieties but only a few trees of each: suggest let us select for you unless you are a specialist.

A sure thing for the north. Don't miss this beautiful tree, unquestionably hardy and with nuts of unrivalled flavor. The parent trees are scattered all the way from the Great Smoky Mountains to Ontario and Wisconsin. Unless you know a lot about hickories the way to order is to give us your **latitude** and altitude and let us select the varieties. One of the dangers in moving trees is to get them too far north or south of the home of the parent tree. 30 to 40 feet apart.

7 HYBRID HICKORIES. The Fairbanks hybrid is one of the fastest growing and surest bearers of all the hickory family. Stratford is also early and heavy bearer. Shagbark should pollenate both. Beginners should try these. They bear so soon that they are most encouraging.

8 PECANS hardy, beautiful. Every farm home with pecan climate should have some. Good for a couple of centuries.

9 HICCAN. Fast growers. Ask us next year.

10 BLACK WALNUT. These are the nuts that keep their flavor in cooking. The black walnut is a majestic and useful tree. The Ohio is unusually symmetrical and beautiful. Ohio, Thomas and Stambaugh, all equally good. Tasterite for north Zone II, III. Parent tree Ithaca, N. Y.

How about a row of them down your lane. Our 7-8 ft. Thomas are extra heavy, very fine. Will bear in a hurry.

Seedlings of the Thomas variety are unusually vigorous. I have some that were pollinated by Ohio and other good varieties. These are the best seedlings in America for quality nuts.

11 ENGLISH WALNUT. We have a small stock of two old standards, Franquette, and Wilz Mayette. Better parts of Zone V. Experimental in IV.

12 HONEY LOCUST. Eventually the most important thing I ever did may be the introduction of the honey locust as a forage crop. The way these trees cluster themselves with long pods of beans is very suggestive of a great new forage crop and possibly also a commercial sugar crop. (see book Tree Crops by J. Russell Smith, out of print, try good library). The small beans are embedded in big fat sugary pods that hang in masses and ripen on test trees of both varieties that we offer. They have proved themselves in the Philadelphia climate. If you have a cow let her have a little fun. She likes candy as well as any girl. If you keep livestock in the pasture where these trees grow you will have to get up early in the morning if you expect to find any beans on the ground. They will have been eaten at dawn by the quadrupeds. Varieties: Calhoun and Millwood. No known difference between these two varieties as yet. The pods have been analyzed and found to contain 30% of sugar. That is the reason they are devoured so greedily. They drop their pods for several weeks to the enrichment of fall pastures and they begin to bear young **AND THE TREES ARE THORNLESS.** Zone V and south.

We have some 8-10 foot and 10-12 foot trees that can be planted in pastures above the reach of cows and therefore without special protection.

Plant 35 to 50 feet apart in pastures. You will get just as much grass or more and a ton or two of grain equivalent per acre. The open top of their feathery foliage lets light through to the grass. Tennessee experiment station reports that such light shading **INCREASED GRASS YIELD.**

The tree has sprawling habits and the trees you buy may be crooked, but I have seen them straighten and the promise of harvests is excellent.

13 SUPERTRANS APPLE. I have an apple that no other nursery known to us offers. It is of Russian origin, much like the yellow transparent in

every respect, except that the flavor is milder and better for eating out of hand, and the apple is not so hard. Therefore a home variety. Every family needs one.

14 OAKS. We have a fine lot. Ask for our special tree list.

15 HIGH BUSH BLUEBERRY. The arrival of this new crop is the horticultural sensation of the decade. I have 3 varieties. They will give you a succession of berries for 5 or 6 weeks beginning in June in the climate of central New Jersey and later as one goes north. Be sure to read our blueberry leaflet and try the Blueberry Kings Packet. All right for southern Maine, New Hampshire and southern Wisconsin and down to Georgia.

OUR TREES ARE FOR THE NORTH

The rubber industry of the Far East is derived from the seed of Brazilian rubber trees grown in the greenhouses of Kew Gardens, London. The Kew trees were raised from seed carried from Brazil by an Englishman.

Similarly we grow trees of northern strains in the northernmost corner of Virginia on the slope of the Blue Ridge Mountain not far from Harpers Ferry which is farther north than southern New Jersey and with a much more severe climate. Therefore we expect them to live in Massachusetts and Michigan. Here is the way we do it.

We use walnut seed from Minnesota. On seedlings of this tough origin we graft the Tasterite walnut which grows on the cold plateau near Ithaca, New York. This is our farthest North Walnut.

The cions of shagbark trees from Wisconsin, from Michigan, and from Ontario, are grafted on young seedling trees grown from Quebec nuts. Persimmon seed from Northern Missouri and Kansas are grafted with cions of persimmons that have done well in Iowa. Our Chinese persimmon varieties were imported personally from the extreme northern range of Chinese persimmons.

The climate of Peiping, China, and Omaha, Nebraska, are almost identical as to average temperatures for July and average temperatures for January.

Our Chinese persimmons and our chestnuts came from the vicinity of Peiping, some of the persimmons from further west.

This should not, however, be taken as a statement that our persimmons will thrive in Omaha, Nebraska. I doubt it. There may be quirks in the climate, such as spring thaws or warm November days followed by freezes that make a difference. It should be clearly understood that the Chinese persimmons, are grown in climate almost like that of Philadelphia but somewhat more severe, and they are thriving in South Eastern Pennsylvania, and that any planter is experimenting. They bear early.

The chestnuts are doing well in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Here and there somebody gets them in a frost pocket and they die, while a man on higher ground 50 miles farther north has them thriving.

OUR SEEDLING DEPARTMENT

We have some seedling English walnuts. Seed from a northern Oregon orchard. Well worth trying.

Japanese Walnut. A handsome tree, rapid grower, very hard to graft, bears heart-shaped nuts in clusters and strings.

An unusual line of Chinese chestnut seedlings.

EARLY PLANTING & FALL PLANTING

Early planting is desirable and be sure that there are no air pockets beneath the roots and that the earth about the tree is soaked with water so that it makes a mud contact with the roots. That lets absorption (which is life for trees) begin. FALL PLANTING is OK. south of line, New York - Pittsburg - Columbus, O. - Indianapolis and St. Louis, Mo.

SPECIAL TREE LIST describing small lots and special trees. Oaks, butternuts, butternut hybrids, grafted filberts and larger size trees.

NORTHERN NUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

This is a varied collection of interesting people, no two alike, (doctors, lawyers, merchants, manufacturers, professors, farmers, spinsters) who have nut trees for avocation—annual meeting an unusual summer vacation event.

You probably will want to join: J. Calhoun McDaniel, sec., Tennessee Dept. Agr., Nashville 3, Tenn.

A LIVING MONUMENT

The boy returns. Father celebrates—plants a row of nut trees.

What better monument to the beloved departed than a nut tree or a grove of them. They get greener and grander for generations. Also a good way for the returned veteran to celebrate his own return.

AN EASTER GIFT, A CHRISTMAS GIFT, OR BIRTHDAY PRESENT

Nut trees are effective gifts. Just think how much longer they last than does a box of candy or almost any other gift that you can name.

You order the trees from us and we will notify your friends at proper time as requested if date of gift precedes proper date of shipment.

Reading Guides For The Owner Of Nut Trees

1. THE PLANTING, FERTILIZATION, & CARE OF NUT TREES AND PERSIMMONS by J. Russell Smith, ScD, postpaid 25¢.

Don't buy good trees and then kill them by misguided care. This booklet will save you many times its cost and increase the results for all but the most skillful tree planters.

2. HOW TO GRAFT NUT TREES. Postpaid 25¢.

The real fun is to graft your own nut trees. It is not especially difficult but it does require special technique. This illustrated booklet tells just how to do it.

3. PLANTING AND CARE OF HIGH BUSH BLUEBERRIES, 15¢, gratis with blueberry orders.

Reading for Patriots who wish to know their United States

NORTH AMERICA, THE CONTINENT AND ITS RESOURCES AS THE HOME OF MAN, by J. Russell Smith and M. Odgen Phillips, 1021 pages, \$4.75 postpaid, a study of the continent by producing regions such as Corn Belt, Cotton Belt, Southern California, the West Indies, the Plateau of Mexico, etc.

Used as an economic guide book by Educated Europeans. Put one in your automobile. It is a standard book without a rival in its field. It is **readable**. It will greatly enhance your pleasure and your understanding of the land as you make an automobile journey. I admit freely that it is the best book on subject.

Keep this book five days and if you do not like it send it back in good order. Your money will be promptly refunded.

**Address And Make Checks Payable To
SUNNY RIDGE NURSERY, SWARTHMORE, PA.**

Do not telephone Swarthmore about trees. Do not call there about trees. It is a strictly mail order office. The trees are far away on the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia. Your letters will receive prompt attention, so will your orders, but remember that a big rain may wet our clay soil and hold us up for 3 or 4 more days after the rain at any time. Order early. Give us all the time you can.

PRICE LIST, SUNNY RIDGE NURSERY, SWARTHMORE, PA.

The Nursery is on the Blue Ridge Mountain in Northern Virginia but the sales office is at Swarthmore, Pa.

This price list cancels all previous lists and may be cancelled Jan. 1st, 1948.

All trees are grafted unless otherwise specified. Will be shipped by express, bare root and properly cut back unless some other arrangement is agreed upon.

Prices F. O. B. Railway Express office, Purcellville, Va. **Please be sure to give correct shipping address.** We do hate to send a tree to the wrong place. It is surprising how many people give a shipping address that is incorrect.

Terms: Cash with order.

For parcel post shipments add 10% to order. We strongly recommend express.

Our stock is so limited in quantity that we cannot make any concession in price for large orders, except that we will sell 12 for the price of 10, in Chestnuts, Thomas Black Walnuts, Japanese Walnuts and Filberts. The fact that 10 foot honey locusts can be planted in pastures without pens around them makes them a bargain.

We cannot send trees with ball of earth, except Cilician fir trees. This tree (*abies cilicica*) is hardy in S. New England and New York. Rare, very rare, and unusually beautiful. **NOT SOLD OUTSIDE OF JAPANESE BEETLE BELT.**

BLUEBERRIES. Blueberry Kings packet, well grown 2 year plants, equal number of each variety in each packet. These are expensive new varieties and these prices are lower than the same plants at any other retailer known to me.

Packet of 6—\$10.50; 12—\$19.00; 24—\$36.00; 36—\$50.00.

Extra, with each 2 dozen, one old favorite Jersey. Two Jerseys with 3 dozen packet. Please do not ask for single plants.

NUT TREES & PERSIMMONS	1-2 ft. Ea.	2-3 ft. Ea.	3-4 ft. Ea.	4-5 ft. Ea.	5-6 ft. Ea.	6-7 ft. Ea.	7-8 ft. Ea.	8-10 ft. Ea.	10-12 ft. Ea.
Chinese Chestnut, Grafted									
Nanking, Abundance (new) ..			\$4.25	\$4.65					
Connecticut Yankee, Zimmerman		3.50	4.00	4.40	4.65				
Chinese Chestnut seedlings ..		1.60	2.35	2.50	2.75	3.00			
Special Straight Line		2.00	2.60						
Northern Pecan, Indiana,									
Busseron, Major, Greenriver ..		4.00	4.50	5.00	5.50				
Hybrid Hickory, Fairbanks,									
Stratford		3.50	3.75	4.00	4.50	4.75			
Pure Shagbarks									
All varieties		5.50	6.50	6.75					
English Walnut									
Wilz Mayette, Franquette		3.00	3.25	3.50	3.75	4.00			
English Walnut seedlings		1.00	1.25	1.50					
Black Walnut, Thomas, Ohio									
Stambaugh, Tasterite		2.50	2.75	3.00	3.25	3.50	3.75		
Thomas seedlings			1.25						
Japanese Walnut seedlings			1.00	1.25					
Honey Locust				1.60	1.85	2.10	2.50	2.75	3.00
Filberts, Barcelona and Pollenator				2.25	2.40	2.60			
Hazel x Filbert hybrid seedling ...			1.25	1.50					
Paw Paw seedlings	1.00	1.25							
Mulberry, Everbearing			1.25	1.40	1.60				
American Persimmon									
Early Golden		3.00	3.50						
Chinese Persimmon									
Peiping, Sheng			5.50	6.00	6.50	7.00	8.00		
Supertrans Apple, Whips		1.25	1.40	1.50					
Cilician Fir with ball of earth				6.00	7.50	8.50			

